

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN NEA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 298867

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PGOV, PINT, US, LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN CHARGE DISCUSSES NATIONAL CONGRESS

REF: TRIPOLI A-42 AND STATE (NOTE TEXT)

1. IN CHAT WITH DEPTOFFS FOLLOWING DELIVERY NOTE CONVEYING QADHAFI'S CEREMONIAL GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT (REFTEL) GASHUT REVEALED THAT HE WOULD ATTEND NATIONAL CONGRESS IN TRIPOLI FROM JANUARY 1. ALL LIBYAN AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES ARE BEING CALLED BACK FOR ONE WEEK CONGRESS WHICH WILL SET OUT FUTURE COURSE OF LARG FOREIGN POLICY, HE SAID. GASHUT DESCRIBED ASU ELECTIONS AND NATIONAL CONGRESS ALONG LINES REFAIR AND SAID THAT ALL RCC MEMBERS AND CABINET MINISTERS WOULD ATTEND.

2. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS CHARGE SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT ANNOUNCEMENT SOON OF REVISED CABINET ALTHOUGH HE CONCEDED THAT CONGRESS HAS POWER TO MAKE CHANGES. HE ALSO REPLIED THAT HE PRESUMED FOREIGN MINISTER AL-HUNI --SAYING HE SEES HIS SIGNATURE ON DOCUMENTS-- IS NOW IN LIBYA, ALTHOUGH GASHUT CONCEDED THAT AL-HUNI, ALONG WITH MOST MINISTERS, "MOVE AROUND A LOT". IN ANOTHER CONTEXT HE
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REFERRED TO DURDAH AS FOR MIN "IN FACT".

3. GASHUT RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO DEPT OFFS SUGGESTION THAT
HE CALL ON CHARGE CARLE WHILE IN TRIPOLI. HIS FAMILY
WILL ACCOMPANY HIM. KISSINGER

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